REACH HIGHER

LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

WINTER 2018

The One Silent Auction Worth Talking About

BIDDING GOES LIVE FEBRUARY 2, 2019!

Learn more PAGE 2.

READING MATTERS $300,000 PROJECT

Learn more PAGE 5.

The mission of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation is to acquire and distribute resources that support various Lakeshore Public School programs and projects aimed at enhancing, enriching, or supplementing learning opportunities for students, staff, and community.

THANK YOU, LANCER LEADERS!

TRUSTEES

JC Anderson
Sharon Austin
Sophie Bauchet
Ludo Beaufils
Kate Beckrow
Randy Bettich
Zeb Deitrich
Chad Deja
Ray Elmore
Phil Freeman
Rachel Hall
Jeff Hannan
Lori Marciniak
Kim McAllister
Elizabeth Meeth
Phil Molloy
Kameron Morris
Julia Pechtel
Jim Roberts
Jenny Ryan
Bill Scaletta
Laurie Schmidt
Kim Thompson
Naomi Ventura
Kathleen Wolf

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The One Silent Auction Worth Talking About

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Head online for your chance at some amazing items and help support our mission.
BIDDING GOES LIVE FEBRUARY 2, 2019!
Learn more at LEFonline.org

Stay warm and dry while donating to a great cause in early February. This is one auction you can do from the comfort of your home during the cold winter! Watch for more information. **LEF holds two fundraisers per year (1.) a Golf Outing in June and (2.) an Online Auction in February.**

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER

Ludovic Beaufils
Vice Chair of Fund Development

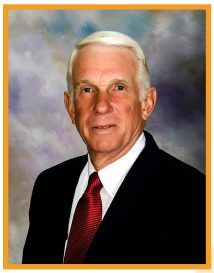
Ludo grew up in Paris, France and has been a member of the local community with his wife and three children since they relocated to Stevensville in 2010. He is currently Vice President Product Marketing for Whirlpool's North American business. Two of his kids are currently in the Lakeshore school system, while his oldest graduated from LHS in 2015. Ludo joined the LEF Board in 2018 as a way to give back to and support a school system that has been and continues to be critical in enabling his family to settle in the US successfully. He has a variety of pastimes, but none he enjoys more than watching his son Remi play soccer on the Lakeshore Varsity team!

LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund is our long-term strategy to funding the LEF mission of learning for generations to come. Annually, the LEF Board evaluates the health of the fund, makes contributions based on giving and project needs, and reinvests the earned interest. If you are interested in learning more about the Endowment Fund, please contact J.C. Anderson at (269) 921-2513 or email at anderjcna@gmail.com.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

To the Lakeshore Public School Community ...



J.C. Anderson
LEF Chairman

In this season where we give thanks for the many good things in our lives, it seems like an appropriate time to thank the members of this community who have committed to enhance the education experience for the students and teachers of the Lakeshore Public Schools.

Through the generous donations of money and time (we are all volunteers), our school district benefits by reaching every student and every teacher every day in their pursuit of education excellence.

During my first six years as Chair of LEF, we've relayed the reality of our local school funding in the bottom 20% of the state, and you've risen to the challenge. Since 2012, our annual fundraising has increased from a plateaued $210,000 annually to nearly $500,000 in 2017. The increase in funding means that more major projects have been accomplished, ahead of schedule, and more grants have been extended to teachers and students to enhance the learning experience.

Since 2012, we've been able to support the following major projects:

$185,000
Technology Upgrade for each classroom (completed in 2013)

$600,000
Media Center Renovation in all five buildings (over three years- completed 2016)

$425,000
STEM in grades K-12 (in second year of implementation, fully funded)

$300,000
Reading Matters K-12 (launched in 2018, one year ahead of schedule)

In the past three years, every student and every teacher has benefited from a grant. There are four different grant programs. The annual budget has increased over the years from $63,000 to this year's $180,000. In 2017, we were able to fund 94% of grant requests (48 out of 51.)

One question I get from donors is, "What is the local support of the school's administration and teachers of LEF?" It's a great question. In the past six years, the financial support of teachers and the administration has increased from a participation rate of 33% to this year's 92% rate. We believe this increase is a reflection of the awareness of the opportunities that LEF presents to the schools.

Last, but definitely not least, I could not be prouder of our all volunteer 25 member LEF Board. Board members have a passion for our schools. Most serve two three-year terms as requested when they commit to serve on LEF.

As members continue to rotate, we look for Board members to extend our reach and networking to bring about new sources (either individual or business) of funding and new talent to support LEF with marketing, communications, project/event management, and accounting. If you are interested in learning more about Board membership, contact myself at anderjcna@gmail.com.

I hope that this update is inspiring to know the local support of our community is making difference in education. If you are interested in learning more about how funds are used and/or how to contribute to our schools through LEF, give me a call (269-921-2513) or send me an email (anderjcna@gmail.com).

Happy Thanksgiving!
J.C. Anderson, Chairman

LAKESHORE Alumni

Like us on Facebook

FOLLOW US, LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Search for Lakeshore High School Alumni and + Join Group
Register for Email Updates at LEFOnline.org

COME SEE US AT THE ALUMNI TABLE AT THIS WINTER'S HOMECOMING. WATCH FACEBOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION.

THANK YOU, LANCER LEADERS

LEF thanks all of our donors. You make a difference for every student and every teacher of Lakeshore Public Schools.

THANK YOU, LANCER LEADERS!

LEF LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

EVERY STUDENT
EVERY TEACHER
EVERY DAY

WHAT IS A LANCER LEADER?

Lancer Leaders have pledged to donate $1,000 or more to LEF.

Each year we take this opportunity to thank our Lancer Leaders for their commitment to enhance the education excellence of the Lakeshore Public Schools.

On November 5th, we recognized and celebrated our Lancer Leaders at the Sixth Annual Lancer Leader Reception. The impact of all donations given to the school district are far reaching. To learn more about becoming a Lancer Leader or to give to LEF, contact an LEF Trustee.

Lancer Leaders recognized at this year's reception:

2018 LANCER LEADERS

Dr. Jim & Michele Allen
J.C. & Nancy Anderson
Tom & Sharon Austin
Bill & Joy Bancroft
Eric & Sophie Bauchet
Ludovic & Marie Beaufils
Dr. Jason & Kate Beckrow
Randy & Trisha Bettich
Dr. Marc & Anja Bitzer
Dave & Diane Boelcke
David Brockway
Tom & Mary Buckleitner
Dr. Gary & Karen Campbell
Mark & Carole Choe
Chemical Bank
Jay & Debbie Craig
Chad & Lori Deja
Daniel & Sharon Deja
Jeff Dorn
Ann & Ted Dosch
Richard & Shelle Dragomer
Stan & Joni Dubbert
Fairmount Santrol
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Farber
1st Source Bank
Jim & Patti Florian
Philip & Marie Freeman
Rudy & Tami Gaishin
Scott & Tina Gourlay
Jon & Rachel Hall
Hanson Family Foundation
-Merlin & Carolyn Hanson
Dr. Bob & Janine Harrison
Josef & Linda Hjelmaker
Honor Credit Union
Dr. Charles & Ana Howenstine
Jim & Chantel Keppler
Loren & Marnie Korfmacher
Lakeshore Rotary Club
Peggy Latini- Supreme Travel
Jeff LeBlanc
Dudley LeValley & LeValley Chevrolet, Buick, GMC Truck, Inc.
Bill & Jane Marohn
Dr. John & Susan Marohn
Jay & Elizabeth Meeth
Midwest Glass & Mirror
Christopher & Joni Miller
Phil & Melissa Molloy
Kameron & Kristy Morris
Jim & Heidi Peters
Professional Hearing Services
Al & Sue Pscholka
Jim Roberts Enterprises LLC
Peter & Jamie Rossow
Dr. Eric Schadt
Hans & Laurie Schmidt
Judy Schultz
Sensational Spas
- Brian VanHorn
Dennis & Elizabeth Sexton
Dick Stauffer
Stacey Stephens
Beat & Linda Stocker
The Herald-Palladium
Neil & Kirsten Trivedi
Chris & Shanna Tyler
United Federal Credit Union
Gil Urban
Carl & Sharon Warren
Larry & Kris Weber
Frederick & Sandra Welch
John & Joy Welch
Mike & Lisa Welch
Warren & Marcy White
Pete & Kathryn Whitehead
David Whitwam
Mark & Mary Whitwam
Kathleen Wolf

Our apologies for using the incorrect name in the Alumni Profile in the August 2018 Newsletter.

ALUMNI PROFILE
DR. JESSICA CASTNER, CLASS OF 1995

Dr. Jessica Castner is a Fellow in the Academy of Emergency Nursing, a recognition she received for pioneering the integration of environmental health research with emergency nursing expertise. Dr. Castner's research focuses on reducing the human health risks from environmental and occupational exposures related to asthma and cardiopulmonary outcomes. Her impact and contributions to the science revolve around four interconnected themes of air quality and inhaled toxicants, mhealth tools for respiratory and environmental exposure monitoring, unscheduled healthcare utilization, and healthy work environments.

READING MATTERS MAKES AN IMPACT

Dr. Julie Powell
Assistant Superintendent

Reading Matters
Lakeshore Public Schools

Walking into Assistant Superintendent Dr. Julie Powell's office, you may have to move a few books off of the chair before you sit down. She truly loves books and embodies the spirit of *Reading Matters* in her own life. Now her excitement for reading is spreading faster than the news of a win against St. Joe!

LEF approved a three-year, $300,000 grant supporting *Reading Matters*. The project is intended to increase reading fluency and instill a lifelong love of reading in our students. In year one, the project included curriculum, training, a focus on reading in Kindergarten through 5th grade as well as an investment in books to build the classroom libraries. Each teacher was given $1,500 to purchase books for choice reading by students, piquing their desire by appealing to a broad range of individual interests.

Now, in year two, the *Reading Matters* program continues to evolve. In addition to an expanded curriculum and additional training, the program has added Kindergarten through 5th grade writing, Kindergarten and 1st grade phonics as well as reading and writing for 6th through 8th grade. Teachers continue to build their classroom libraries with an additional $1,000 to spend on additional books.

"What's really exciting is seeing the teachers adopting the reading mindset. They are making the program their own by adding additional layers to the curriculum," said Powell.

Teachers have formed their own networks of continuous learning where they share their experiences. They are working together, generating ideas to help students develop confidence through increased exposure to books and stretching their capabilities by tapping into the student's interests.

Although the goal of *Reading Matters* is to build an emotional connection between students and reading, it's also about increasing proficiency. Lakeshore measures reading performance using the *Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System*. Students are tested three times a year, in the fall, winter and spring.

"Although we are only in the beginning of year two, we're already seeing at least one grade level reading growth for almost every student," said Powell proudly. The results are certainly cause for excitement.

Reading Matters is a fantastic example of the measurable impact our generous donors have on the students and staff within Lakeshore Schools. To learn more about LEF or to make a donation, visit LEFOnline.org.

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THE PATTI FLORIAN STUDENT ENRICHMENT GRANTS

Mrs. Patti Florian, an original founding LEF Trustee in 1998, had the vision and passion to give all students the opportunity to pursue their interests "beyond the school walls."

Today, that vision continues to play out through the *Stepping Stones Grants*. Each year, students apply for and receive grants to pursue a wide variety of interests including; arts programs, athletic endeavors, academic interests in science, math and computer systems among many other opportunities. The grants are a great example of the LEF mission to enhance the education of students K-12.

Through Mrs. Florian's persistence to activate LEF student grants, in addition to her gifts of time and financial support, students have benefited and indeed have learned beyond the school walls for the past 20 years. In Mrs. Florian's honor, The LEF Trustees have renamed the *Stepping Stones Grants* to be ***The Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grants***.

Thank you, Mrs. Florian, for your dedication to students through the LEF the past 20 years. You have made a difference in the lives of many students.

Mrs. Patti Florian receives a *Certificate of Appreciation* from J.C. Anderson, LEF Chairman

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Virtual and augmented reality is used to fill the gap between virtual and physical worlds.

Imagine being able to explore the skeletal system in 3D right at your desk? How about visiting historical monuments without buying a plane ticket? This technology changes the way students and educators approach learning. The Virtual Reality goggles create opportunities for exploration and experiential learning without leaving the classroom. 3D visualization is used heavily in STEM professions and is considered a valuable skill. New concepts are being taught with measurable improvement in student engagement and learning. Thank you for continuing to support LEF Professional Development Grants.

VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

An interview with Brad Brunner, recipient of a LEF Foundation Grant.

What is the Virtual and Augmented Reality Professional Development project?

Virtual Reality goggles were purchased for each high school staff member. Staff was trained on how to use them with students.

Were there any unexpected successes beyond what you had planned?

Yes, a number of teachers used the *Virtual Reality* goggles with their classes including the trip to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

What educational benefit(s) did this grant bring to your students?

Students and teachers gained first-hand knowledge about the transformative power of virtual and augmented reality. Without question, students will use these types of technology in the future, and are likely currently using them now.

How many students were impacted by the grant?

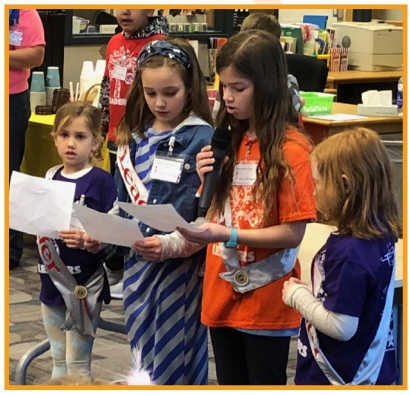
Between 100 and 150 students.

What was special about this experience (a highlight for you personally?)

I really enjoyed watching the staff experience virtual reality for the first time - what a thrill!

21ST CENTURY MEDIA CENTER SOUND SYSTEM

Student Leaders at Hollywood Elementary have found their voice and want it to be heard loud and clear!



An interview with Patty McNees, recipient of a LEF Foundation Grant.

What is the 21st Century Media Center Sound System at Hollywood Elementary project?

Our new sound system was installed in time for our *Leadership Day* last spring and students were able to use the microphone and speaker to welcome guests, introduce themselves and share about *The Leader In Me* initiative at Hollywood Elementary, as well as thank families and community members for their ongoing support.

Additionally, we've been able to use the sound system as a staff for meetings held in our Media Center. Being able to hear the speaker/presenter loud and clear helps to engage listeners and takes the strain off the presenter, too.

What educational benefit(s) did this grant bring to your students?

Students are working on public speaking skills and providing amplified sound allows them to speak loud and clear in front of a crowd. We're so proud of their public speaking skills, which will serve them well for a lifetime!

Were there other staff, parents, or community involved who benefited as well?

Anyone who attended our *Leadership Day* last spring was able to understand the benefit of having a working sound system in the Media Center- something that's lacking in our gym space and was noted as a "delta" (area for improvement) on our exit surveys.

What was special about this experience (a highlight for you personally?)

It's always heartwarming and emotional to watch young children step in front of a group of adults and speak. Two of our boys were chosen to present speeches at last year's *Leader In Me Symposium* and they practiced by giving the speech in front of our guests at *Leadership Day.* Every adult in the room had a big smile on their face (and many had a prideful tear in their eye!) as they watched these boys deliver a clear and heartfelt speech about the impact that Hollywood Elementary, and particularly *The Leader In Me* initiative, has had on their life.

If we didn't have the sound system available for them to use, the impact of their message would've been dulled with people straining to hear them in a crowded room. It was a beautiful moment for everyone who witnessed it!

YOU SHOP. AMAZON GIVES.

THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING. MAKE YOUR ONLINE HOLIDAY AND EVERYDAY SHOPPING COUNT!

It's as simple as going to:

smile.amazon.com

Select Lakeshore Excellence Foundation as your charitable organization. From then on, any eligible purchase will result in 0.5% going to LEF!

amazon

LAKESHORE Alumni Class of '69 50th Reunion

CLASS OF 1969 50TH REUNION

CLASS OF '69, YOUR 50-YEAR REUNION IS COMING.

For information and to get your name on the list, please visit the LEF website: www.lefonline.org/50-year-registration-form

HOPE TO SEE YOU!

DISTINGUISHED Alumni Award

Lakeshore graduates succeed in all walks of life.

Our graduates have made their mark as innovative entrepreneurs, caring parents, skilled technicians, business and civic leaders, educators, veterans, medical/legal professionals, and in a host of other valued roles that make our world a better place. **Do you know a distinguished Lakeshore Alum that should be recognized?** Nominations are due by December 1, 2018. Nominate online at LEFonline.org/distinguished-alumni-nomination-form

DAILY LIVING SKILLS CURRICULUM

An interview with Ricky Rhodes, Special Education Teacher, LMS and recipient of a LEF Foundation Grant.

What is the Daily Living Skills Curriculum?

It is the goal of our Daily Living curriculum to explicitly teach skills to lay a foundation for our students to live healthy, independent lives. In doing so, we will not only be impacting our students and their families directly, but also our community as a whole. We aim to reduce the ability gap that is present for students with cognitive disabilities compared to their peers.

Who takes this class?

Students enrolled in the Cognitively Impaired classroom have the opportunity to practice skills that will lead them toward independence into their adult lives. We are now in our second year of implementation and a total of 14 students have been directly impacted.

What was funded through the LEF Foundation Grant?

We were able to purchase the tools necessary to meet the goals established by the Berrien County Employability Standards for students with special needs. We purchased a washer, dryer, and various items to create a fully functional, student-centered kitchen.

Were there any obstacles to overcome?

Initially, our kitchen didn't have the necessary wiring and water hookups for our appliances and we didn't have enough storage to adequately house our cooking supplies. Through the generous support of our district and Mr. Jim Jakubs, we were able to update our kitchen's plumbing and wiring. Jim even found some cabinets in storage and installed them for us. A big THANKS to Jim for the hours of work he put into making our LEF grant a possibility.

Were there any unexpected successes beyond what you had planned?

It has been amazing to see the growth of students across all their daily living skills, but the biggest unexpected success is their grocery store skills. After one year of weekly trips, the students have become nearly independent to locate items and make budget-centered decisions. It's common to hear our students discuss things such as sale prices, unit rates, and nutrition information. Now they run the show at Martin's. It's pretty amazing.

An additional benefit of having these resources allows us teachers to create additional learning experiences across other academic domains. One example of this is how reading and math skills are required when following a recipe or purchasing items from a grocery store. Students have developed an understanding of comparative shopping, unit rates, and budgeting among others. All the while being engaged in a genuine, supported learning experience and building interpersonal community skills.

What do you believe are the lasting benefits of the Daily Life Skills Curriculum?

For many parents and teachers of children with cognitive impairments, planning for the future is filled with uncertainty. Our program provides instruction and additional practice in these skill areas and prepares them for a life of increased self-determination and independence.

Any other comments you would like to make?

Just a few final shout outs. First, I'd like to recognize our classroom paraprofessionals who have supported the implementation of our program from the start. They are Laura Sokol and Marlene Wright. The development of these programs could only have been created through the three of us working together. Our curriculum wouldn't be where it is without their hard work, dedication, and great ideas. Thank you to all the generous individuals who have donated additional kitchen supplies and materials. A thank you to Lakeshore Schools for your continued support of our classroom activities.

And lastly, a special thank you to the LEF for what you do for us and our schools. You're all a bunch of dream makers and our students and community as a whole benefit from the hard work and dedication you give. On behalf of myself and my colleagues, thank you from the bottom of my heart.

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